

## GAGE'S FIRST OFFICIAL ACT.

Finds an Opera Bouffe Performance by Federal Officials.

ORDER BY TELEPHONE.

New Secretary Tells Deputy McKinney to Act as Internal Revenue Collector.

TWO CLAIMANTS FOR THE PLACE.

Deputy Rome Had Assumed Charge of the Office and for Half a Day Both He and McKinney Gave Orders.

Secretary of the Treasury Lyman J. Gage performed what was probably his first official act as a Cabinet officer under President McKinley by settling a dispute by means of a telephone message between two internal revenue officers in the Brooklyn district.

It was an opera bouffe performance from beginning to end, and Mr. Gage's message, if reduced to every day parlance, would have been: "Quit your nonsense. It was an official communication, however, and in parliamentary language was to the effect that Alexander McKinney, Deputy Collector, should perform the duties of Collector until a new collector should be appointed. The message came direct from Mr. Gage, who was at the Washington end of the wire with ex-Secretary Carlisle and an operator. Mr. McKinney was at the Brooklyn end.

The trouble started in Brooklyn at about the time the people of Washington were awaiting the approval of President McKinley's inaugural address. It was due to the desire of two men to have the honor of being Acting Internal Revenue Collector for the brief days until the President decides what Brooklyn Republican can have the job. Alexander McKinney, Deputy Collector, was designated by Secretary Carlisle to perform the duties at the head of the office, but William N. Rome, the senior deputy in the service, insisted that the law made him the Acting Collector in case of a vacancy, and he assumed charge. Mr. McKinney had the keys to the safe, containing \$1,700,000 in stamps, and Mr. Rome had a copy of the Revised Statutes. That was the situation from noon till Mr. Gage interfered at 4 o'clock.

The vacancy in the office was due to the failure of the Senate to confirm President Cleveland's appointment of John Kelly. The confirmation was held up through the tergiversations of Senator Hill at the instigation of the Brooklyn Democratic leaders. The argument of the Senate without action in the office vacant, and Alex. McKinney was designated in a telegraphic message from the Treasury Department to act as collector.

With claimants wired explanatory messages to Washington, and after the inaugural ceremonies Mr. Gage and Mr. Carlisle apparently got together to inquire into the dispute in Brooklyn. They rang up the Internal Revenue office, and Mr. McKinney, who is a younger man than Mr. Rome, and therefore quicker, got to the Brooklyn end of the wire first. He recited the trouble, then listened to instructions, the tenor of which could be understood by him, which was:

"All right, Mr. Gage, I will continue to act as collector." Later he said that throughout the day he quietly obeyed orders. "I had been designated to act as collector," he said, "and I did. That's all there is to it."

Mr. Rome maintained that Secretary Carlisle had no right to designate who should act.

"Mr. Kelly did not go out of office," he argued. "All the sessions of the Senate to elect him were not till noon. There was no vacancy until that hour, and any appointment was therefore invalid. It therefore devolved upon me, the senior deputy, to step into the vacancy. I simply performed my duty. Had I done otherwise I would have laid myself open to censure. It lies with Secretary Gage, of course, to designate an acting collector."

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LADIES—TRY FOR THE \$500 CASH PRIZES in our word contest. March number of Woman's World & Jeunesse Monthly will tell you all about it. Read carefully, and it may bring you first prize of one hundred dollars. On all 11 news stands.

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GRANDJEAN—On Thursday, March 4, Sylvie, widow of the late Charles V. Grandjean, in her 73rd year. Relatives and friends are invited to attend the funeral, from her late residence, 135 West 62d st., at 1:30 P. M., Saturday, March 6. Please send flowers.

GRANT—In the morning of March 4, 1897, Dorothea, youngest child of Edward M. and Ida L. Grant. Funeral private. Kindly omit flowers.

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## LILLIAN'S VOICE AGAIN FAILS HER.

Miss Lillian Russell Disappoints a Brooklyn Audience.

JEERS FROM THE HOUSE.

Third Time That She Breaks Down at the Same Theatre.

WOULD NOT SING A NOTE.

Sobbing in the Wings Over the Hisses and Groans Coming from the Front—She Apologizes in Person.

The last echoes of the overture of "An American Beauty," at the Columbia Theatre in Brooklyn last night, had hardly died away, when the right hand side of the drop curtain moved and Stage Manager Coventry, of the Lillian Russell Opera Company, advanced toward the footlights and said:

"Ladies and Gentlemen—It is with much regret that I am compelled to announce to you the indisposition of Miss Russell, and to add that, sorely against her own wishes, she is obliged, by the advice of her physician, to refrain from singing her role of Gabrielle Dalmont to-night. I hope—"

But he got no further. A young man in the rear of the theatre shouted "Rats; you worked Brooklyn that same way last year!" "That's so, that's so!" shouted a score of voices from various parts of the house. The top gallery took up the cry "Fake, fake!" It called out, adding to the din by shrill whistles.

Harry Mann, manager of the Columbia Theatre, was sent for and told Miss Russell's manager that there was only one thing to do. Miss

Not everyone can go South for March, but almost everybody can spend a dollar or two for Scott's Emulsion of Cod-liver Oil. If you have got a lingering cough or are run down; are weak and exhausted by reason of the Grippe, ask your doctor if Scott's Emulsion isn't just what you need in the emergency. The combined virtues of the Cod-liver Oil, the Hypophosphites and Glycerine as prepared in Scott's Emulsion will give you flesh and strength rapidly and help you back to health.

### Personal.

IF THIS meets the eye of Peter Murray, who left Brooklyn Hill, London, England, September, 1892, write him at once, mother living away. "Bonnie Blair Bush," Journal office.

LADIES—Try for the \$500 cash prizes in our word contest. Get the March number of Woman's World & Jeunesse Monthly (on all 11 news stands) for particulars. It costs you nothing to enter this contest.

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Russell must address the audience herself. "But I can't," sobbed the famous singer. "I can't speak above a whisper." "You must appear, anyhow," insisted Mr. Mann. So after a delay of five minutes Miss Russell, in street attire, took the centre of the stage.

"I am very sorry," she said, in a low voice, "that I cannot sing to-night, but I am too hoarse, and my physician says I would imperil my voice should I put it to any severe strain. I would rather this should have happened anywhere else in the world than in Brooklyn, for—"

Here she was interrupted by a ripple of applause from a number of people who sat sufficiently close to the stage to hear her words. Others remained silent.

"For," she resumed, "it was in this city and at this very theatre, a year ago last April, that my voice was affected so that on a Monday night and again on a Thursday night, I was unable to appear. But



### MUSIC IN THE AIR

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HON. FRANCIS G. NEWLANDS, of Nevada. SUBJECT: THE FAME OF GOLD.

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AUGUSTE VAN BIENE. Sig. NUTINI "The Blind Paderewski." James P. Hoer, Her. G. O'Brien and Havel Winter Garden, Evening, 11 o'clock.

BEAUTY! FUN BOTH! HOYT'S THE SEASON'S GREAT FAIR.

MY FRIEND FROM INDIA. MURRAY HILL PAUL CAZENOVE THEATRE, in Lex. av. and 42d st. The THREE GUARDSMEN.

this hoursness is only temporary, and I think I will be able to sing the role at both performances Saturday.

As she concluded and bowed her way to the wings, Miss Russell, with hisses greeted her exit. Manager Mann immediately appeared, however, and, after announcing that such persons as were disappointed in not being able to hear Miss Russell could exchange their tickets for either performance of Saturday, he added that Miss Russell's understudy, Miss Catherine Linyard, a Brooklyn girl, would sing the title role for the present. This announcement was generally applauded, and comparatively few people left the theatre.

Miss Linyard scored so conspicuous a success that she was called before the curtain at the end of the second act.



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